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FM 2-7

WAR DEPARTMENT FIELD MANUAL

CAVALRY

CAVALRY DRILL REGULATIONS, MECHANIZED

WAR DEPARTMENT · 15 MARCH 1944

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON 25, D. C., 15 MARCH 1944.

FM 2–7, Cavalry Field Manual, Cavalry Drill Regulations, Mechanized, is published for the information and guidance of all concerned.

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BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF WAR:

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(For explanation of symbols see FM 21–6.)

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FM 2-7

This manual supersedes FM 2-10, Mechanized Elements, 8 April 1941

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CHAPTER 1

GENERAL

SECTION I

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

1. PURPOSE. The drill prescribed herein is designed for general use and may be adapted to any type of mechanized cavalry unit. This manual should be used as a guide to a solution of minor points not specifically covered in the text.

2. SCOPE. The organization, drill, and ceremonies of all units to include the headquarters and headquarters troop of the cavalry group are covered. Some of the explanations are general in nature to give sufficient latitude for adaptation to specific units. The diagrams shown in the figures may be adapted to any type unit and to changes in tables of organization and equipment.

SECTION II

COMMANDS

3. GENERAL. **a.** Commands for dismounted drill, close and extended order, are covered in FM 22–5.

b. A command is the direction of the commander either expressed orally and in prescribed phraseology or transmitted by any other means outlined in d below.

c. Where the person to give the commands is not otherwise prescribed, the commander of the unit will give them.

d. Commands may be transmitted by any of the following methods:

(1) Voice.
(2) Signals:
  (*a*) Audible.
    1. Whistle.
    2. Trumpet.
    3. Horn or siren.
  (*b*) Touch.
  (*c*) Visual.
    1. Arm and hand.
    2. Flags.
    3. Lights.
(3) Example of leader or base unit.
(4) Radio, voice or key.
(5) Interphone system.
(6) Staff officers.
(7) Messengers, mounted or dismounted.
(8) Any combination of the above methods.

4. VOICE. **a.** There are two kinds of commands:
(1) The preparatory command such as FORWARD, which indicates the movement that is to be executed.

(2) The command of execution, such as MARCH, HALT, or ARMS, which causes the execution.

b. In mounted extended order formations there is generally no command of execution. Certain commands or signals indicate the movement and also cause its execution, such as EXTEND or ASSEMBLE.

c. The preparatory command is given at such interval of time before the command of execution as to insure proper understanding and to permit the giving of necessary commands by subordinate leaders; the command of execution is given at the instant the movement is to commence. Changes in formation or direction should normally be completed before ordering other changes.

d. The tone of the command should be animated, distinct, and of a loudness proportionate to the number of men for whom it is intended. Indifference in giving commands must be avoided, as this leads to laxity in execution. Commands must be given with spirit.

e. When giving commands to troops, the commander faces them. When the section or platoon in close order drill or in ceremonies is part of a larger unit, the leader turns his head toward the unit to give commands but does not face the men.

f. Officers and men fix their attention at the first word of command.

g. If all men in the unit are to execute the same movement simultaneously, the subordinate leaders do not repeat a command; otherwise they repeat the command or give the proper new command for the movement of their own unit.

h. If at a halt, the commands for movements involving marching, such as 1. COLUMN RIGHT, 2. MARCH, are not prefaced by the command FORWARD.

i. Preparatory commands may be revoked by commanding: AS YOU WERE.

j. In instruction by the numbers, all movements for the purpose of instruction may be divided into motions and

executed in detail. The command of execution determines the prompt execution of the first motion. The other motions, depending on the number, are executed at the commands TWO, THREE, FOUR, etc. To execute the movement in detail the instructor first cautions, "By the numbers." All movements are then executed in detail, one motion for each count until the caution, "Without the numbers," is given.

5. SIGNALS. a. Purpose. Drill and combat signals are for the purpose of transmitting commands when the transmission will be more simple and efficient than would be possible by the use of any other means. Any type of signal must be simple, easily understood, and definite.

b. Dismounted signals. Signals for dismounted drill, close and extended order, are covered in FM 22–5.

c. Audible signals. Audible signals are made with the leader's whistle, siren, vehicle horn, or trumpet. Audible signals are limited to—

(1) ATTENTION TO ORDERS. One short blast.

(2) CEASE FIRING. One long blast. This signal will be supplemented by arm and hand or other type signal.

(3) TO INDICATE DANGER OR AN AIR OR MECHANIZED ATTACK. Three long blasts of a whistle, vehicular horn, siren, or klaxon, repeated several times; or, three equally spaced shots with a rifle or pistol; or, three short bursts of fire from machine gun or submachine gun. In daylight, the individual giving the signal points in the direction of the impending danger; at night, the alarm signal will be supplemented by voice warning to indicate the direction of danger.

d. Touch signals. Touch signals are used by a vehicle commander to direct the driver. They are given with the foot or hand.

(1) MOVE FORWARD. Several taps between the shoulder blades.

(2) INCREASE SPEED. Repeat MOVE FORWARD signal more rapidly. The taps are continued until the desired speed is acquired.

(3) DECREASE SPEED OR HALT. Steady pressure between the shoulder blades. Pressure is continued until the desired reduced speed is obtained, or the vehicle is halted.

(4) MOVE IN REVERSE. Tap repeatedly on the back of the driver's head (helmet).

(5) CHANGE DIRECTION. Press on the driver's right (left) shoulder to turn right (left). The driver continues turning until pressure ceases.

e. Visual signals. (1) ARM AND HAND SIGNALS. (*a*) The arm and hand signals herein prescribed cover the control of vehicles in mounted drill and in mounted combat. Unless otherwise prescribed, they are given normally with the right arm and hand.

(*b*) Signals must be plainly visible. Where applicable, they may be given either from the vehicle or from the ground.

(*c*) Whenever the signal for a formation or movement includes a preparatory signal, the formation or movement is executed upon the signal of execution; otherwise, as soon as the signal is understood. Preparatory signals are started from the position of the arm at the side. Signals of execution are started from the position of the arm at the vertical and fully extended, except where specifically prescribed otherwise. To complete the signal of execution, the arm is lowered to the side at the time the execution is desired.

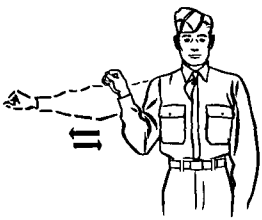
(*d*) Single signals are preferable to combinations. When a combination of signals is used, the signals should be easily recognized and given in the order in which a command would be worded. For example, the signal for ASSEMBLE IN COLUMN OF PLATOONS should be the signals for ASSEMBLE, COLUMN, and PLATOONS, in that order.

(*e*) To change the formation of subordinate units when extended, it often will be preferable for the leader to move

the base unit and indicate or signal the formation desired; all others conform to the base.

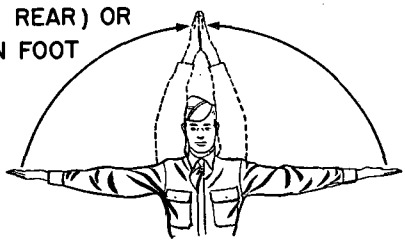
(*f*) Mounted drill and combat signals are as follows:

1. *Action front (right, left, or rear) or fight on foot.* Thrust the closed fist rapidly several times in the direction toward which it is desired to go into action. (See fig. 1.)
2. *Are you ready? I am ready.* Extend the arm toward the leader for whom the signal is intended, hand raised, fingers extended and joined, palm toward the leader. (See fig. 1.)
3. *Assemble.* Raise the hand vertically to the full extent of the arm, palm to the front, fingers extended and joined, then slowly describe with the arm large, horizontal circles above the head. (See fig. 1.)
   (a) To assemble mounted personnel dismounted, this signal must be *preceded* by the signal DISMOUNT. (See fig. 3.)
   (b) To assemble commanders, give this signal and follow it by holding up one, two, three, or four fingers to indicate commanders in order of rank respectively. A signal indicating juniors will include all superior commanders.
4. *Attention.* Extend the arm full length above the head, palm to the front, and move it slightly from side to side several times. (See fig. 1.)
5. *To close formation or bring up vehicles.* Extend the arms horizontally sideward, palms up, and swing them upward to the vertical position overhead until palms meet. Repeat several times. (See fig. 1.)
6. *By the right (left) flank (preparatory).* Extend the arm to the full extent horizontally directly to the right (left). (See fig. 2.)

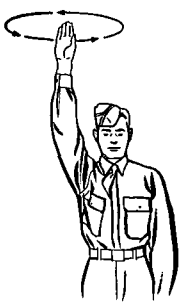


ACTION RIGHT (FRONT, LEFT OR REAR) OR FIGHT ON FOOT

ARE YOU READY OR I AM READY



TO CLOSE FORMATION OR BRING UP VEHICLES

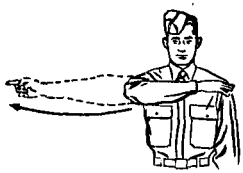


ASSEMBLE

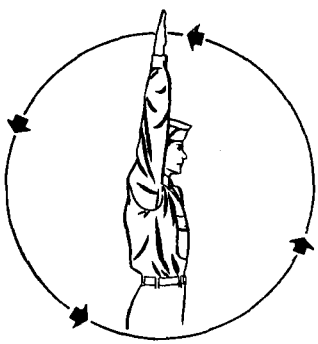
ATTENTION

Figure 1. Arm and hand signals.

BY THE RIGHT (LEFT) FLANK



CHANGE DIRECTION



COLUMN

TROOP (COMPANY)

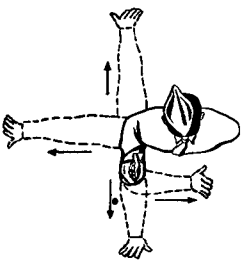
DECREASE SPEED

Figure 2. Arm and hand signals.

INCREASE SPEED

ECHELON RIGHT (LEFT)

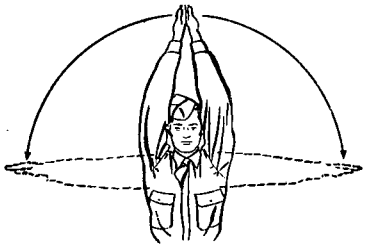
DISMOUNT, (PREPARE TO DISMOUNT, USE RIGHT ARM ONLY)



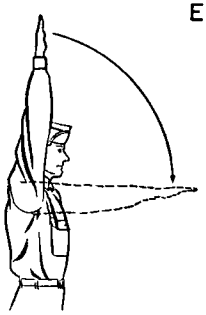
DISPERSE

DISREGARD

Figure 3. Arm and hand signals.

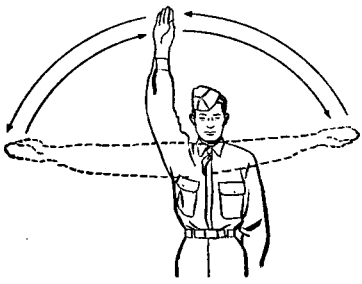


EXTEND



FORWARD OR FOLLOW ME

HALT

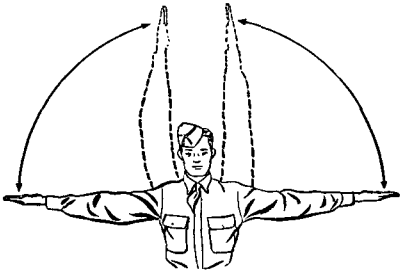


LINE

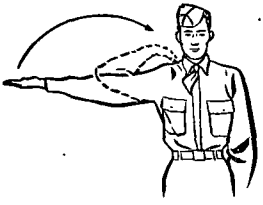
Figure 4. Arm and hand signals.

MARCH

SECTIONS



MOUNT, (PREPARE TO MOUNT,
USE RIGHT ARM ONLY)



MASS

PLATOONS

Figure 5. Arm and hand signals.

7. *Change direction* (*preparatory*). Carry the hand that is on the side toward the new direction across the body to the opposite shoulder and, with the palm down and the forearm horizontal, swing the forearm in a horizontal plane, extending the arm and hand to point in the new direction. (See fig. 2.)

8. *Column* (*preparatory*). Raise the arm vertically, then drop the arm to the rear and describe circles in a vertical plane with the arm fully extended. (See fig. 2.)

9. *Troop or company.* Place the palm of the hand against the back of the neck, elbow to the side. (See fig. 2.)

10. *Decrease speed.* Extend the arm horizontally from the shoulder, palm to the front, and swing the arm up and down several times. (See fig. 2.)

11. *Dismount* (*preparatory*). Extend the arm diagonally upward to the side, palm down, and wave the arm downward several times. Use both arms in a like manner as a command of execution or when no preparatory command is desired. (See fig. 3.)

12. *Disperse.* Raise the hand to the shoulder, palm to the front, fingers extended and joined, and thrust the open palm vigorously several times to the left, front, right, and rear. (See fig. 3.)

13. *Disregard.* Place the right hand against the back at the height of the waist, back of the hand toward the body. (See fig. 3.)

14. *Echelon right* (*left*) (*preparatory*). Extend the right (left) arm upward to the side at an angle of 45° above the horizontal. (See fig. 3.)

15. *Extend.* Extend the arms vertically over head, backs of hands together, and swing them side-

ward to the horizontal position. Repeat several times. If in a formation possessing width and depth, extension is made in both directions. (See fig. 4.)

16. *Forward* (*preparatory*) *or Follow me.* Raise the hand vertically to the full extent of the arm, palm to the front, and lower the arm and hand in the direction of movement until horizontal. (See fig. 4.)

17. *Halt* (*preparatory*). Raise the hand vertically to the full extent of the arm, palm to the front. For execution, drop the arm to the side. (See fig. 4.)

18. *Increase speed.* Carry the hand to the shoulder, fist closed. Rapidly thrust the fist upward vertically to the full extent of the arm, and back several times. (See fig. 3.)

19. *Line.* Raise the hand vertically to the full extent of the arm, fingers extended and joined, and wave the arm well down, alternately to the right and left several times. (See fig. 4.)

20. *March.* Raise the hand vertically to the full extent of the arm, palm to the front, fingers extended and joined; make a brief pause in this position, and drop the arm smartly to the side. (See fig. 5.)

21. *Mass* (*preparatory*). Extend the arm horizontally, palm up, fingers extended and joined, and by flexing the elbow, bring the tips of the fingers to the point of the shoulder several times. (See fig. 5.)

22. *Mount* (*preparatory*). Extend the arm horizontally to the side, palm up, and wave the arm upward several times. Use both arms in a like manner as a command of execution or when no preparatory command is desired. (See fig. 5.)

TO THE REAR

SQUAD (TEAMS)

WEDGE

Figure 6. Arm and hand signals.

23. *Platoons (preparatory).* Raise the elbow to the height of the shoulder, fist closed, forearm vertical. (See fig. 5.)
24. *Sections (preparatory).* Raise the arm and hand vertically to the full extent of the arm, fist closed. (See fig. 5.)
25. *Squads or teams (preparatory).* Raise the arm and hand vertically to the full extent of the

arm, palm to the inside, fingers extended and joined, and distinctly move the hand to the right and left several times from the wrist, holding the arm steady. (See fig. 6.)

26. *To the rear.* Turn and point to the rear, arm horizontal. (See fig. 6.)

27. *Wedge (preparatory).* Raise both arms, hands clasped over head. (See fig. 6.)

(*g*) *Driver's arm signals.* The arm signals for drivers are prescribed in TM 21–300 and 10–460.

(2) FLAG SIGNALS. (*a*) Flag signals are used for control and transmission of commands. Their use is limited to important signals where a positive visual method is desired. They should be supplemented by other means, such as radio, and arm and hand signals.

(*b*) Each combat vehicle is equipped with a flag set consisting of one each orange, red, and green flags with staffs.

(*c*) Flags are displayed vertically overhead; in tanks or armored cars through the top of the turret.

(*d*) They may be held stationary or waved to attract attention.

(*e*) Subordinate leaders repeat signals.

(*f*) The following code will be used:

1. *Enemy in sight.* Red.
2. *All clear, ready, or understood.* Green.
3. *Disregard or vehicle out of action.* Orange.
4. *Assemble or close.* Orange and green.
5. *Extend.* Red and orange.
6. *Disperse.* Red and green.
7. *Gas.* Red, orange, and green.
8. Additional flag signals may be improvised.

(3) LIGHT SIGNALS. (*a*) For night traffic-control lights see FM 29–5.

(*b*) In giving the signals described in the following paragraphs, face toward those who are to receive the signal

Hold and move the light horizontally. Do *not* point it upward. When giving light signals under black-out conditions, use a light, the lens of which has been covered with suitable colored material. Subordinate leaders repeat signals and pass them along the column.

(*c*) The following light signals are prescribed for general traffic control:

1. *Right or left turn.* Rotate the light in a vertical plane, describing circles 12 to 18 inches in diameter so that the light moving from the top of the circles travels in the direction of the desired turn.
2. *Start engine.* Rotate light describing circles to simulate cranking.
3. *Stop or stop engine.* Move light back and forth horizontally, repeating as necessary.
4. *Forward, move out, go, or increase speed.* Move the light up and down in a vertical line, repeating as necessary.

(*d*) The following signals are prescribed when a dismounted man signals to maneuver individual vehicles.

1. *Move forward, stop, turn, and start, or stop engine.* Same as prescribed in (*c*) above.
2. *Move in reverse.* Steady light, held still and pointed toward the driver. (After movement of a vehicle has started, the driver must stop his vehicle when he can no longer see the light.)

(*e*) *Pyrotechnics.* The use of pyrotechnics is limited to a simple, prearranged code. They are frequently prescribed for use as signals for launching an attack, for lifting artillery fire, for identification of friendly aircraft, or for similar immediate actions.

f. Fire control signals. See FM 22–5.

6. OTHER AGENCIES. a. Example. (1) LEADER. Unit conforms to speed and direction of leader.

(2) BASE UNIT. Remainder of unit conforms to formation, speed and direction of the unit prescribed or indicated as the base.

b. Radio. Brief, simple commands or prearranged code are transmitted by voice or key.

c. Interphone system. Voice commands to the driver or other members of the crew are given by the vehicle commander in those vehicles provided with the interphone system.

d. Staff officers. Staff officers may be used to transmit commands when other means break down or are impracticable, particularly when an explanation of the situation is necessary.

e. Messengers, mounted or dismounted. Messengers are used when they are faster than any other method; when other methods have broken down or are impracticable; to clarify commands; and to supplement important commands to assure their receipt and understanding.

SECTION III

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR OCCUPANTS OF VEHICLES DURING DRILL AND CEREMONIES

7. GENERAL RULES. a. The occupants of military motor vehicles are considered in formation and do not leave the vehicle without proper authority.

b. No occupant may occupy any part of the vehicle in such a manner as to obstruct the view of the driver.

c. Occupants keep wholly inside the vehicle unless specifically directed otherwise.

d. No vehicle will be moved until all occupants are inside the vehicle.

e. On trucks, tail gates will be kept closed while vehicles are in motion.

8. POSITIONS. Occupants in combat vehicles may be seated or standing at attention, or in one of the rest positions as follows:

a. Attention. (1) The position of attention assumed by occupants, except the driver, seated in motor vehicles is an alert position, with back erect, chest lifted, shoulders squared, head up, eyes straight in the direction the occupant is facing, and arms falling naturally at the side. For ceremonies see paragraph 67.

(2) The driver's position is the same as prescribed for seated occupants, except on wheeled vehicles the hands should rest on opposite sides of the steering wheel, on a horizontal line, generally through the center of the wheel, grasping the steering wheel firmly but without stiffness. For tank positions see FM17–5.

(3) Personnel, who normally stand in the vehicle (armored car commanders or others) assume the same position of attention as seated personnel, except that they may support themselves as needed to maintain their balance.

(4) Silence is maintained.

b. Rests. The commands are: AT EASE, REST, ROUTE ORDER.

(1) At the command AT EASE, occupants of motor vehicles may assume a relaxed posture but do not leave their positions in the vehicle. Silence is maintained.

(2) At the command REST, positions are maintained, comfortable postures may be assumed, and occupants may talk.

(3) ROUTE ORDER is the habitual march order. On long marches and in the zone of combat, where every opportunity for sleep or rest must be taken, occupants of motor vehicles not specifically on duty may dispose themselves so as to secure the most comfort and rest.

CHAPTER 2

DRILL

SECTION I

GENERAL

9. PURPOSES OF DRILL. **a.** The primary purpose of drill is to facilitate control in combat.

b. By instilling habits of precision and response to the leader's orders and obedience to his desires, as indicated often by his action, it aids in disciplinary training.

c. It provides a means, through ceremonies, of enhancing the morale of troops, developing esprit de corps, and furnishing interesting spectacles for the public.

d. It gives junior officers and noncommissioned officers practice in commanding troops.

10. CONDUCT OF DRILL. **a.** Dismounted drill is covered in FM 22–5.

b. Drills in which vehicles are involved are set forth in this chapter. Intervals and distances in the formations shown may be adapted to the space available. Dismounted drill, simulating mounted drill and conducted by signals, should precede mounted drill.

c. Mounted drills usually are restricted to units no larger than the troop. However, the squadron may drill as a unit, using the formations prescribed in this manual as a guide.

11. THE LEADER. **a.** The commander of each unit is the leader. In general, during drill, he is in front of the base element, from which position he leads the unit in the direction and at the speed desired. He may, however, move his vehicle where he can best observe and supervise his unit, leaving the guidance to a subordinate.

b. Subordinate commanders vary the formation and speed of their units to compensate for terrain and other considerations, but conform again to the formation of the base as soon as practicable.

12. BASE. **a.** The leading element is the base in all formations except line and wedge.

b. The center or right center element is the base in all line and wedge formations.

c. Any element may be designated as the base.

d. The base element follows its leader or conforms to his movement unless otherwise ordered. All other elements regulate and guide on the base.

e. When executing changes in formations, base elements move so as to prevent countermarching by other elements.

13. INTERVALS AND DISTANCES. **a.** In close order mounted drill, intervals and distances are normally 15 yards. They must be varied to meet local conditions of terrain.

b. In extended order drill, intervals and distances are variable, usually 50 to 100 yards. However, since the ultimate purpose of extended order drill is to facilitate control on all types of terrain under campaign conditions, it may be desirable to vary intervals and distances beyond these limits.

c. For march formations see appropriate filed manual for the unit concerned.

d. Increase or decrease of intervals or distances may be obtained at any time by the command or signal EXTEND or CLOSE, respectively.

e. Upon halting, intervals and distances are maintained unless preceded by the command or signal CLOSE. If in

extended order formation, intervals and distances are decreased to those prescribed for close order drill; if in close order formation, they are decreased to 5 yards. When closed to 5 yards, no evolutions of drill are executed; close order intervals and distances are taken upon moving out unless otherwise prescribed.

14. SPEED. **a.** In close and extended order drill, the leader and base elements move at a uniform rate of speed, usually not more than 15 miles per hour.

b. Other elements, when necessary, vary their speed gradually during movements to conform with the base or to complete movements.

15. CHANGES OF DIRECTION. **a.** In changing the direction of a unit, the leader conducts the base element in the new direction on the arc of a circle, the radius of which is not less than 15 yards.

b. If the unit is in a column formation, elements in rear of the base change direction successively in the same manner and on the same ground as the base.

c. If the unit is in any formation except column, other elements regulate on the base and maintain their relative positions.

16. METHODS OF ASSUMING FORMATIONS. **a. Line, mass, or wedge.** These formations are gained from any column formation by a fan-shaped deployment toward either side of the base. The next subordinate element within a unit in rear of the base moves to the left of the base, and the third to the right of the base, and so on alternately. (See fig. 8.) These elements move by the most direct route without change of formation until they arrive near their new positions when they form line or wedge if not already in that formation. When line, mass, or wedge is to be formed in any other direction than the direction of march, the head

of the column should be turned in the new direction before the deployment is ordered.

b. Column. Column formations are formed from any line or wedge formation by successive movements of the next subordinate elements within a unit to their positions in rear of the base. The base is followed alternately by the next subordinate element on its left and right. These elements initiate their movement by changing their formations, if required, and moving by the most direct route to their new positions. (See fig. 8.)

c. Echelon right (left). From line and wedge formations, the base element moves straight to the front, and takes the formation indicated. Other elements echelon to the right (left) successively in the order right (left) element left (right) element and take the formation of the base. From column formations all elements echelon right (left) simultaneously and take the formation of the base.

d. Movement of base. The unit commander allows for sufficient forward movement of the base to permit smooth changes of formation and to prevent the necessity of countermarching by any elements.

e. Movements of elements other than base. Where obliquing is prescribed in this chapter for the movements of units other than the base in proceeding from one formation to another, applicable movements in column, line, or by the flank may be substituted where desired. Uniformity of method should be adopted by units.

17. EXTRA VEHICLES. Extra vehicles which normally do not participate in drill, when present, may be formed into a separate platoon(s) or used to fill vacancies within platoons.

18. VEHICLE CREWS. **a.** Dismounted posts and crew drill for various crews are covered in the following:
(1) Light tank, FM 17–68.

(2) 75-mm howitzer motor carriage, M8, FM 17–69.
(3) Armored car, M8, FM 2–6.

b. Dismounted posts for the ¼-ton truck crews are shown in figure 7.

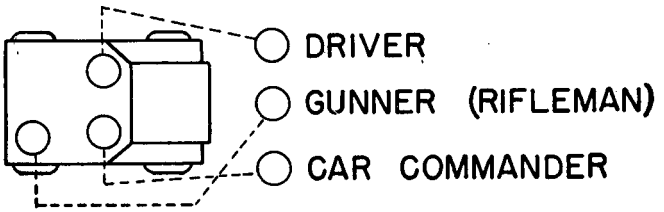


Figure 7. Mounted and dismounted posts, ¼-ton truck crew.

SECTION II

CAVALRY RECONNAISSANCE PLATOON, MECHANIZED

19. ORGANIZATION. The platoon is the basic reconnaissance unit. Within the platoon, reconnaissance teams are formed which are composed of armored cars and ¼-ton trucks. The number and type of vehicles in each team will vary; there is no normal grouping. As a basis for illustration, however, three vehicle teams are used. Each team consists of one ¼-ton truck with machine gun, one armored car, and one ¼-ton truck with mortar. In column, the platoon leader commands the first team; the scout section sergeant commands the second team; and the platoon sergeant commands the third team. (See fig. 8.)

20. FORMATIONS AND MOVEMENTS. The platoon formations and movements as shown in figures 8 and 9 are:

a. Line. The platoon is in line of teams in line. The center team is the base. The interval between teams is 15 yards.

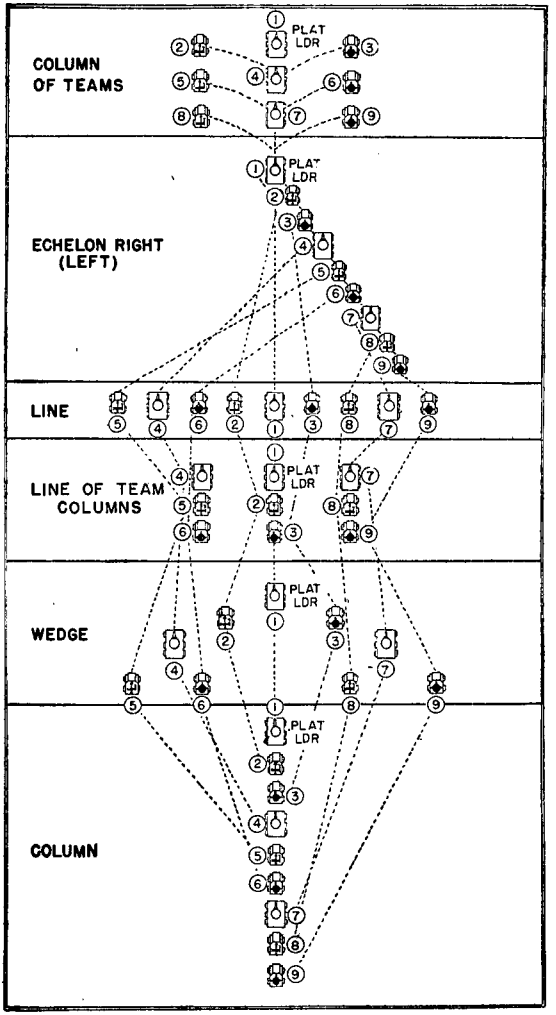


Figure 8. Reconnaissance platoon formations and movements.

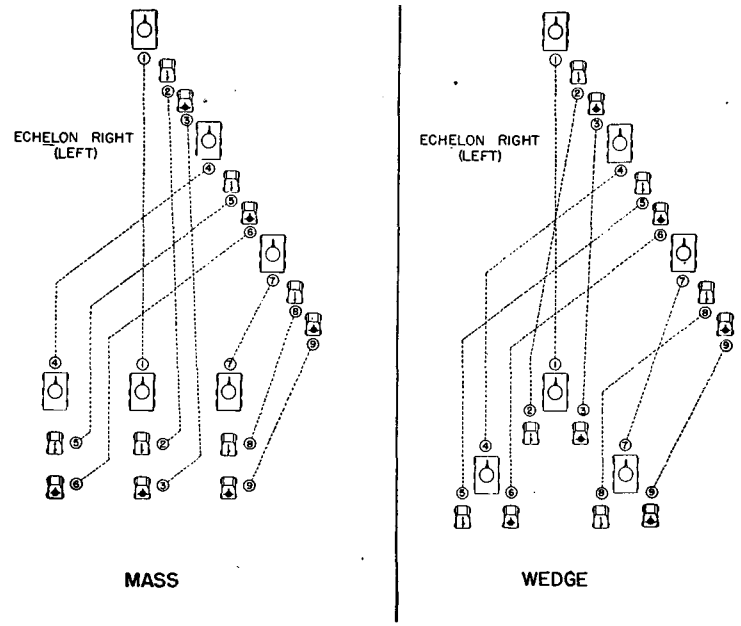


Figure 9. Echelon from mass and wedge.

b. Line of teams. The platoon is in line of teams in column. The interval between teams is 15 yards.

c. Column of teams. The platoon is in column of teams in line. The distance between teams is 15 yards.

d. Column. The platoon is in column of teams in column. The distance between teams is 15 yards.

e. Wedge. The platoon is in wedge of teams in wedge. The base team is the apex of the wedge. The distance between teams is 15 yards.

f. Echelon right (left). The platoon is echeloned right (left), the base team leading, with distance between teams of 15 yards.

21. TO FORM PLATOON, DISMOUNTED, WITH VEHICLES. **a.** The platoon is formed, dismounted, by the platoon sergeant and,. after verification, is marched with necessary arms, ammunition, and equipment to the vehicle park. (See FM 22–5.) Upon arrival at the vehicle park, the platoon sergeant halts the platoon, directs car commanders to get vehicles ready and placed in the desired formation. He then commands: FALL OUT. At this command, the car crews fall out and proceed to their individual vehicles. Vehicles are inspected by car commanders, and drivers perform before operation inspection, while the remaining members of the crews install weapons and load ammunition and field equipment.

b. As soon as the platoon leader's car is inspected and the engine warmed, it is moved under direction of the platoon sergeant to the point where it is desired to form the platoon. Remaining vehicles form successively in the prescribed formation. Normal distances and/or intervals are taken unless otherwise specified.

c. When all vehicles are in place and ready to move, the platoon sergeant takes position 6 yards in front of the center of the platoon, faces it, and commands: 1. DISMOUNTED POSTS, 2. FALL IN. After the car crews have assumed their dismounted posts and car commanders have verified the presence of their men, the platoon sergeant commands: REPORT. Each car commander in turn from right to left in line (from front to rear, in column), salutes and reports, "(Such) team (crew) (section) present," or "(so-and-so) absent." If no verification is required, or if it has been made previously, no report is necessary.

d. After the car crews are formed and necessary adjustments made, the platoon sergeant faces about, salutes, and reports to the platoon leader, "Sir, the platoon is present or accounted for," or "Sir, (so-and-so) absent."

e. While the platoon is being formed (alone), the platoon leader places himself 4 yards in front of and facing the platoon sergeant in time to receive the report.

22. TO MOUNT. To mount the platoon, the platoon leader commands: MOUNT.

a. Armored car crews mount as prescribed in FM 2–6.

b. Crews of ¼-ton trucks mount by taking the most direct route at double time to that part of the vehicle nearest their mounted positions, and enter in the most convenient and expeditious manner.

23. TO DISMOUNT. To dismount the platoon, the platoon leader commands: DISMOUNT.

a. Armored car crews dismount as prescribed in FM 2–6.

b. Crews of ¼-ton trucks dismount in the most convenient manner; they habitually dismount carrying individual weapons and move at double time to dismounted positions.

24. TO FORM LINE. The commands are: 1. LINE, 2. MARCH.

a. If the platoon is in column, the leading team forms line in the direction of march. The second team moves to the left at increased speed and, when clear of the base team, forms line abreast of the base team. The third team moves to the right and forms line abreast of the base platoon.

b. If the platoon is in wedge, the teams form line simultaneously and the two teams in rear move at increased speed abreast of the base.

c. If the platoon is in line of teams, the left team obliques to the left and the right team obliques to the right to gain sufficient interval to form line. As soon as this interval is gained teams execute line, the flank teams moving abreast of the base.

d. If the platoon is in column of teams, the first team continues the march. The second team in column obliques to the left and the third team in column obliques to the right to uncover the base team, and when so uncovered move to the front at increased speed to positions abreast of the base.

25. TO FORM LINE OF TEAMS. The commands are: 1. LINE OF TEAMS, 2. MARCH.

a. If the platoon is in column, the leading team continues the march. The second team in column obliques to the left and the third team in column obliques to the right and move abreast of the base at increased speed.

b. If the platoon is in wedge all teams execute column simultaneously, if not already in column, and the two teams in rear move at increased speed abreast of the base.

c. If the platoon is in line the teams form column simultaneously, the flank teams closing to proper intervals from the base.

d. If the platoon is in column of teams the first team in column forms column. The second and third teams in column oblique to the left and right respectively and, when the base team is uncovered, form column and move to the front at increased speed to positions abreast of the base.

26. TO FORM COLUMN OF TEAMS. The commands are: 1. COLUMN OF TEAMS, 2. MARCH.

a. If the platoon is in column, all teams form line simultaneously and close to proper distance.

b. If the platoon is in wedge, the two teams in rear oblique to their proper positions in column behind the base; if not already in line, all teams form line.

c. If the platoon is in line of teams, the flank teams decrease speed until the base team is uncovered. When uncovered, the base team forms line. The left and right teams oblique to their positions in rear of the base and form line.

d. If the platoon is in line, the base team continues the march. The flank teams decrease speed until the base team is uncovered. The left team obliques to its position in rear of the base at the proper time, followed by the right team.

27. TO FORM COLUMN. The commands are: 1. COLUMN, 2. MARCH.

a. If the platoon is in line the base team forms column in the direction of march. The left and right teams decrease speed until the base team is uncovered. The left team, at the proper time, forms column and follows the base. It, in turn, is followed by the right team.

b. If the platoon is in wedge, all teams execute column simultaneously. The left team follows the base and, in turn, is followed by the right team.

c. If the platoon is in line of teams, the base team continues the march. The flank teams decrease speed until the base team is uncovered and then follow the base with the left team immediately behind the base.

d. If the platoon is in column of teams, the base team forms column in the direction of march. At the proper time the second and third teams in column form column respectively and follow the base.

28. TO FORM WEDGE. The commands are: 1. WEDGE, 2. MARCH.

a. If the platoon is in column, all teams take the formation indicated. The second and third teams in column move to the left and right respectively to uncover the base, which continues in the direction of march.

b. If the platoon is in line, all teams take the formation indicated, the flank teams decreasing speed to uncover the base, which continues in the direction of march.

c. If the platoon is in line of teams, the base continues the march and the flank teams decrease speed to uncover the base. When the base is uncovered, all teams take the formation indicated.

d. If the platoon is in column of teams, the base takes the formation indicated in the direction of march. The second and third teams in column oblique to the left and right respectively and, when the base is uncovered, take the formation indicated.

29. TO FORM ECHELON. The commands are: 1. ECHELON RIGHT (LEFT). 2. MARCH.

a. Each team may be in echelon, column, line, or wedge.

b. If the platoon is in column, each team uncovers the one next in front in the direction and in the formation indicated.

c. If the platoon is in line or wedge, the base team takes the formation indicated in the direction of march. The right (left) and left (right) teams take the formation indicated and move to positions behind the base in that order, each team uncovering the one next in front in the direction indicated.

d. If the platoon is in line of teams, the flank teams decrease speed to uncover the base which then takes the formation indicated. The right (left) and left (right) teams then take the formation indicated and move to positions behind the base, in that order, each team uncovering the one next in front in the direction indicated.

e. If the platoon is in column of teams, the base takes the formation indicated and in the direction of march. The second and third teams in column take the formation indicated at the proper time, and move to positions behind the base in that order, each team uncovering the one next in front in the direction indicated.

30. FIGHT ON FOOT. **a.** The platoon dismounts to fight on foot at the platoon leader's command: FIGHT ON FOOT. At this command the crews of armored cars proceed as outlined in FM 2–6 and the crews of machine-gun-carrying ¼-ton trucks proceed as outlined in FM 23–50.

b. In the mortar-carrying ¼-ton trucks the No. 1 gunners secure the aiming stakes, sights, cleaning staffs, and shoulder pads, and place them on the ground at the position where the mortars are to be placed. They place the cleaning staffs so as to point in the general direction of fire. No. 2 gunners secure the base plates, tubes, and bipods and place them on

the ground at the designated firing positions. The drivers remove the ammunition and place it near the gun positions. Unless directed otherwise, drivers then move their vehicles to cover at least 100 yards from the mortar positions and remain with their vehicles. Details for placing the gun in action dismounted and for dismounted movement are prescribed in FM 23–85.

31. TO GO OUT OF ACTION. The platoon leader commands: 1. OUT OF ACTION. (2. If vehicles have been withdrawn and placed under cover at a distance, BRING UP VEHICLES.) 2. (3) MOUNT. Members of the crews reverse the procedure called for in paragraph 30.

SECTION III

CAVALRY RECONNAISSANCE TROOP, MECHANIZED

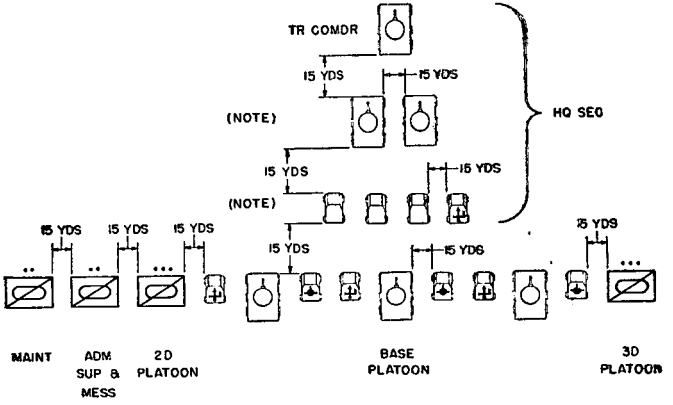
32. ORGANIZATION. See T/O & E 2–27.

33. FORMATIONS. The mounted formations of the troop in close and extended order are:

a. General. Headquarters section forms with the troop commander in all formations; troop headquarters, less headquarters section if present, forms as a platoon on the left of the troop when the troop is in line and in the rear of the troop in all other formations. (See figs. 10–13.)

b. Line. The troop is in line of platoons in line. The interval between platoons is 15 yards. The center platoon is the base. (See fig. 10.)

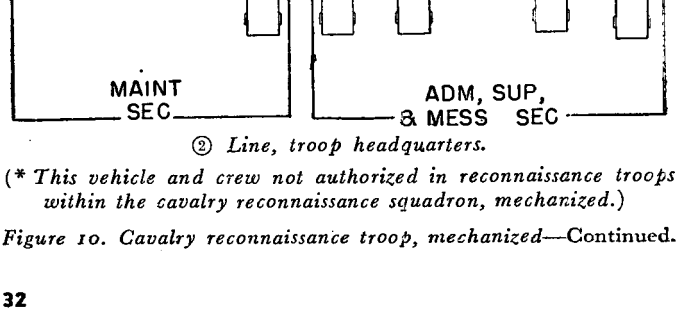
c. Line of platoon columns. The troop is in line of platoons in column. The interval between platoons is sufficient for the troop to form line in the direction of march. (See fig. 11.)



① *Line.*

Figure 10. Cavalry reconnaissance troop, mechanized. (Liaison detachment is present only in reconnaissance troop, infantry division.) For details of formation of troop headquarters, see figure 10 ②.

TROOP HEADQUARTERS



② *Line, troop headquarters.*

(* *This vehicle and crew not authorized in reconnaissance troops within the cavalry reconnaissance squadron, mechanized.*)

Figure 10. Cavalry reconnaissance troop, mechanized—Continued.

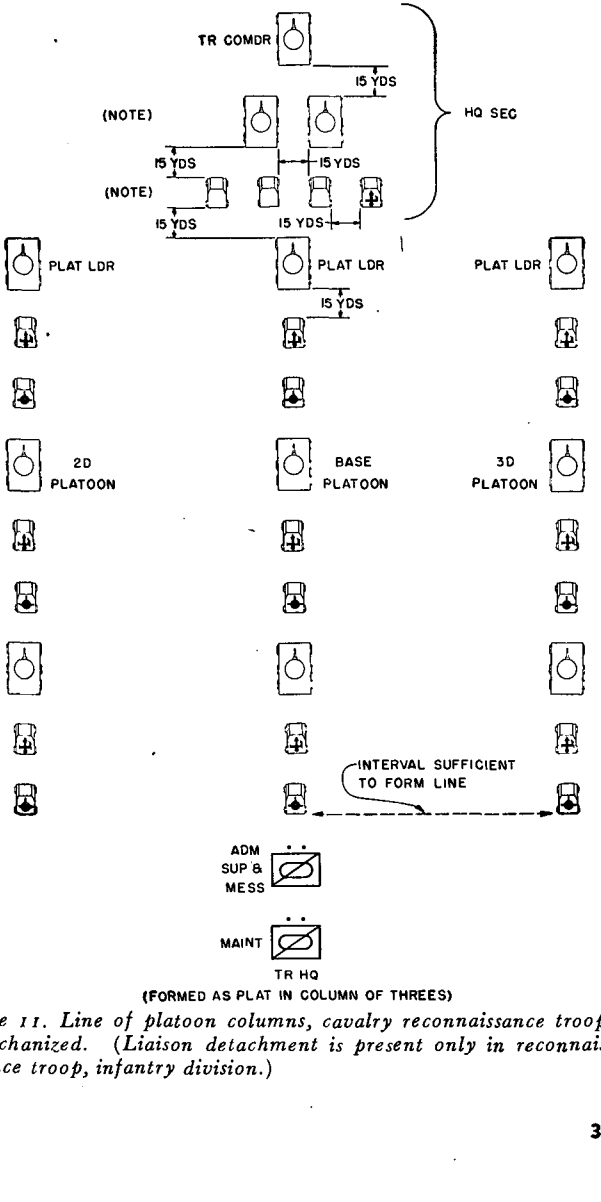


Figure 11. Line of platoon columns, cavalry reconnaissance troop, mechanized. (Liaison detachment is present only in reconnaissance troop, infantry division.)

d. Mass. The troop is in line of platoon columns with interval between platoons of 5 yards and distance between vehicles of 5 yards.

e. Column. The troop is in column of platoons in column. The distance between platoons is 15 yards.

f. Column of platoons. The troop is in column of platoons in line. The distance between platoons is equal to the frontage of the leading platoon. (See fig. 12.)

g. Wedge. The troop is in wedge of platoons. The base platoon is the apex of the wedge. Distances and intervals between platoons are 15 yards. Figure 13 depicts wedge of platoons in wedge; platoons may be in any platoon formation.

34. TO FORM TROOP DISMOUNTED WITH VEHICLES. a. The troop normally is formed in column (or line in motor park), but may be formed in any close order formation indicated in the command.

b. The troop is formed dismounted (at barracks) as prescribed in FM 22–5. After verification, the troop is marched with necessary arms, ammunition, and equipment to the vehicle park. The troop is halted in the vehicle park, and the first sergeant directs the platoon sergeants to take charge of their platoons. Vehicles are inspected and made ready as prescribed for the platoon.

c. As soon as the troop commander's vehicle is inspected and its engine warmed, it is moved under the direction of the first sergeant to the point where it is desired to form the troop. The first sergeant commands: FORM TROOP IN MASS (COLUMN) (LINE). The base platoon then takes up the prescribed formation with its platoon leader's vehicle 15 yards in rear of the troop commander's vehicle. The other platoons form on the base platoon with troop headquarters, if present, on the left. In a column formation, the order from front to rear is that of the permanent platoon number, with troop headquarters if present, in the rear.

Normal intervals and distances are taken unless otherwise designated. When all platoons, and troop headquarters if present, have been formed, the first sergeant takes position 6 yards in front of the right wheel of the troop commander's vehicle, faces it, and commands: 1. DISMOUNTED POSTS. 2. FALL IN. After the car crews have assumed their dismounted posts and the platoon sergeants have received and verified the reports of their platoons (if verification has not been made previously), the first sergeant commands: REPORT. The platoon sergeants, in order from right to left, or front to rear, salute and report, "(Such) platoon is formed," or in case no previous verification has taken place, "(Such) platoon present or accounted for," or "(Such) platoon, (so-and-so) absent." At the command POSTS, given by the first sergeant, all platoon sergeants take their dismounted posts.

d. The first sergeant executes an about face and reports to the troop commander, "Sir, the troop is formed," or "Sir, (so-and-so) absent." When the troop commander acknowledges the salute, the first sergeant, without command, takes his post in troop headquarters.

e. The troop commander places himself 4 yards in front of the first sergeant in time to receive his report.

f. The platoon leaders take their posts 6 yards in front of the right wheel of their respective vehicles when the first sergeant has reported.

g. The troop mounts upon the command or signal of the troop commander.

35. TO FORM LINE. To form line, the commands are: 1. LINE, 2. MARCH.

a. If the troop is in column, the leading platoon forms line in the direction of march. The second platoon in column moves to the left at increased speed and, when clear of the base platoon, forms line and moves abreast of the base platoon. The third platoon in the troop column moves to the right and forms line and moves abreast of the base

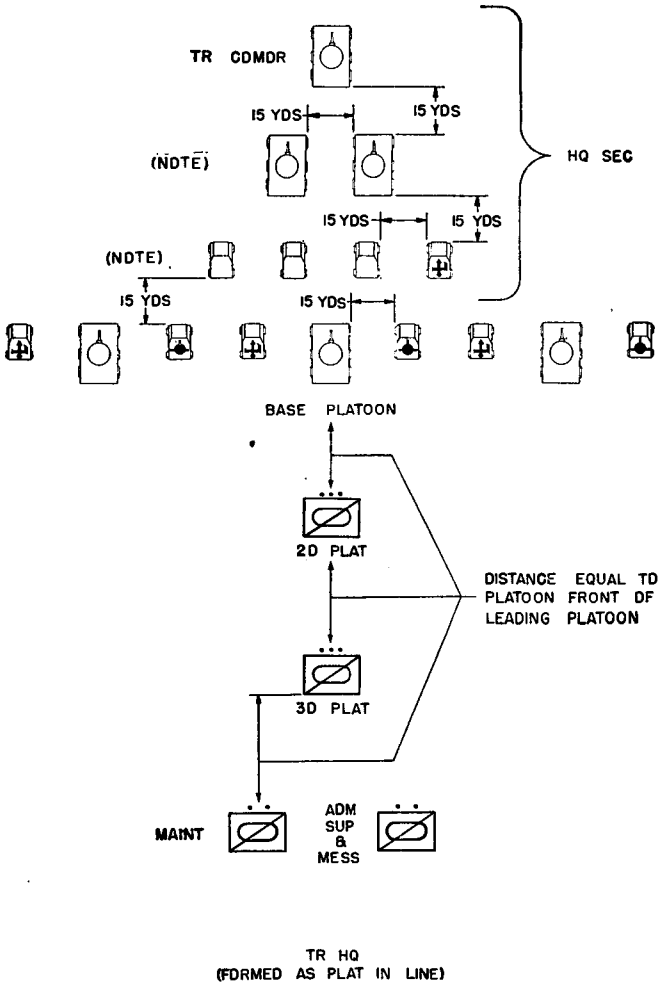


Figure 12. Column of platoons, cavalry reconnaissance troop, mechanized. (Liaison detachment is present only in reconnaissance troop, infantry division.)

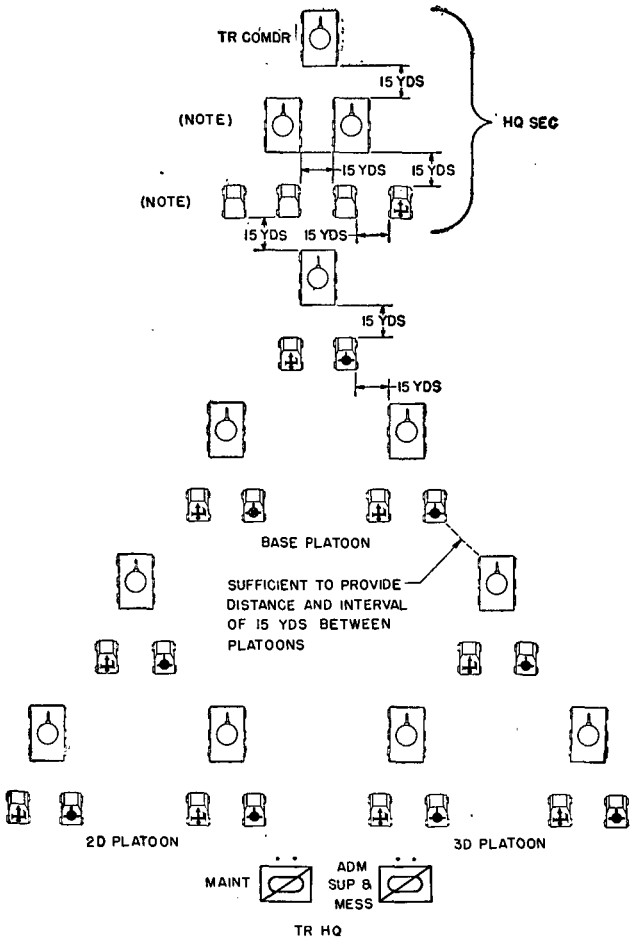


Figure 13. Wedge, cavalry reconnaissance troop, mechanized. (Liaison detachment is present only in reconnaissance troop, infantry division.)

platoon. Troop headquarters, if present, moves to the left at increased speed and when clear of the second platoon, forms line and moves abreast of the second platoon. The interval between platoons is 15 yards.

b. If the troop is in column of platoons, the base platoon continues the march. The second platoon in column moves to the left oblique and, when the base platoon is uncovered, moves forward at increased speed until abreast of the base platoon. The third platoon in column moves to the right oblique and, when the base platoon is uncovered, moves forward to position abreast of the base platoon. Troop headquarters, if present, moves to the left oblique and when the second platoon is uncovered, moves forward at increased speed until abreast of the second platoon.

c. If the troop is in mass, the left platoon moves to the left oblique and, when sufficiently uncovered, moves to the front and forms line abreast of the base platoon. The third platoon moves to the right oblique and, when uncovered, moves to the front and forms line abreast of the base platoon. The base platoon, when sufficiently uncovered, forms line in the direction of march. Troop headquarters, if present, moves to the left and, when the second platoon is uncovered, it forms line abreast of the second platoon.

36. TO FORM LINE OF PLATOON COLUMNS. The commands are: 1. LINE OF PLATOON COLUMN, 2. MARCH.

a. Troop headquarters, if present, follows in rear of the troop in column of threes.

b. If the troop is in column, the base platoon follows the troop commander or moves in the direction indicated. The other two platoons move at increased speed to their respective positions.

c. If the troop is in line, all platoons simultaneously form column.

d. If the troop is in column of platoons, each platoon forms column and then proceeds as from column.

37. TO FORM MASS. The commands are: 1. MASS (MASS LEFT, MASS RIGHT), 2. MARCH.

a. In mass formations, troop headquarters, if present, follows in column of threes in rear of the troop.

b. If the troop is in column, the base platoon follows the troop commander or moves in the direction indicated. The other two platoons, and troop headquarters if present, move at increased speed to their respective positions abreast of the base platoon.

c. If the troop is in line, all platoons form column simultaneously, take proper interval, and then close distances to 5 yards.

d. If the troop is in column of platoons, the base platoon forms column and follows the troop commander or moves in the direction indicated. The other two platoons form column and move at increased speed to their respective positions abreast of the base platoon.

e. In MASS RIGHT, all other platoons are to the right of the base platoon. In MASS LEFT, all other platoons are to the left of the base platoon.

38. TO FORM COLUMN. To form column, the commands are: 1. COLUMN, 2. MARCH. If the troop is in line, the base platoon forms column and follows the troop commander's vehicle or moves in the direction indicated. The other two platoons, and troop headquarters if present, form column in time to take their places in the troop column, in the order left platoon, right platoon, troop headquarters.

39. TO FORM COLUMN OF PLATOONS. The commands are: 1. COLUMN OF PLATOONS, 2. MARCH.

a. If the troop is in line, the base platoon follows the troop commander or moves in the indicated direction. The other two platoons, and troop headquarters if present, decrease their speed until the proper distance is gained, then

oblique to their places in rear of the base platoon, in order left platoon, right platoon, troop headquarters.

b. If the troop is in mass, the base platoon continues to march and, when sufficiently uncovered, forms line in the direction of march. The other two platoons, and troop headquarters if present, decrease their speed until the proper distance is gained, then oblique to or take their places in rear of the base platoon, in order left platoon, right platoon, troop headquarters, and form line.

c. If the troop is in column, all platoons form line simultaneously.

40. TO FORM WEDGE. The commands are: 1. WEDGE, 2. MARCH. If the troop is in line, column, or column of platoons the base platoon takes the formation indicated and continues the march. The other platoons take the formation indicated and move to their respective positions in the troop wedge, each platoon uncovering the one next in front in the direction indicated. Troop headquarters, if present, follows in column of threes in rear of the troop.

SECTION IV

LIGHT TANK PLATOON AND COMPANY

41. ORGANIZATION, FORMATIONS, AND MOVEMENTS. **a.** The light tank company, organic in the cavalry reconnaissance squadron, mechanized, is identical with the light tank company of the Armored Command. (See T/O & E 17–17.)

b. The light tank company and platoon form and drill in the manner prescribed in FM 17–5. Tank crew drill is set forth in FM 17–68.

SECTION V

CAVALRY ASSAULT-GUN PLATOON AND TROOP, MECHANIZED

42. ORGANIZATION. See T/O & E 2–28.

43. FORMATIONS AND MOVEMENTS. For the platoon, see four-vehicle platoon drill, FM 17–5. For the troop, see light tank company drill, FM 17–5.

SECTION VI

TRANSPORTATION PLATOON, SQUADRON MAINTENANCE PLATOON, AND SQUADRON SUPPLY SECTION

44. ORGANIZATION. See T/O & E 2–26.

45. FORMATIONS AND MOVEMENTS. See paragraph 47.

SECTION VII

HEADQUARTERS AND SERVICE TROOP, CAVALRY RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON, MECHANIZED

46. ORGANIZATION. See T/O & E 2–26.

47. FORMATIONS AND MOVEMENTS. Headquarters and service troop does not ordinarily form or maneuver mounted as a unit, except for marches, ceremonies, and inspections. When required to do so it forms and maneuvers in a manner similar to that of the reconnaissance troop with necessary drill modifications necessitated by differences in organization.

SECTION VIII

CAVALRY RECONNAISSANCE SQUADRON, MECHANIZED

48. SQUADRON HEADQUARTERS. See T/O & E 2–26.

49. ORGANIZATION. See T/O & E 2–25.

50. FORMATIONS AND MOVEMENTS. The squadron does not ordinarily drill as a unit. The formations listed below are prescribed to facilitate forming and moving the squadron in those instances when the squadron does so maneuver. The squadron commander usually leads the squadron from a position 25 yards in front of the troop commander of the base troop. (See par. 11.)

a. Line. The squadron is in line of troops in line. The interval between troops is 25 yards.

b. Line of masses. The squadron is in line of troops in mass. The interval between troops is 10 yards. (See fig. 14.)

c. Line of troop columns. The squadron is in line of troops in column. The interval between troops is sufficient to form line.

d. Line of troops in line of platoon columns. The troops of the squadron are abreast of each other, each in line of platoon columns. The interval between troops is sufficient to form line.

e. Column. The squadron is in column of troops in column. The distance between troops is 25 yards.

f. Column of masses. The squadron is in column of troops in mass. The distance between troops is 10 yards.

51. TO FORM THE SQUADRON. a. The squadron may be formed in line, column, column of masses, or line of masses. The formation used depends on the terrain and situation. For marches, the squadron is formed in column, the order of march being designated by the squadron commander. Formations for inspection, review, and parades are covered in chapter 3.

b. The adjutant informs the troop commanders as to place of assembly and nature of formation. The troops, after being formed, march to the place of assembly; the adjutant takes post facing the base troop of the squadron when formed. The adjutant commands or signals: ASSEMBLE. The troops normally take positions in order of their designations, that is A, B, C, D, E, F, Headquarters and Service, from right to left in line and from front to rear in column. The troop commander of the base troop places his troop in the required formation so that his vehicle is facing the adjutant's at 20 yards. The other troops take their proper places with reference to the base troop.

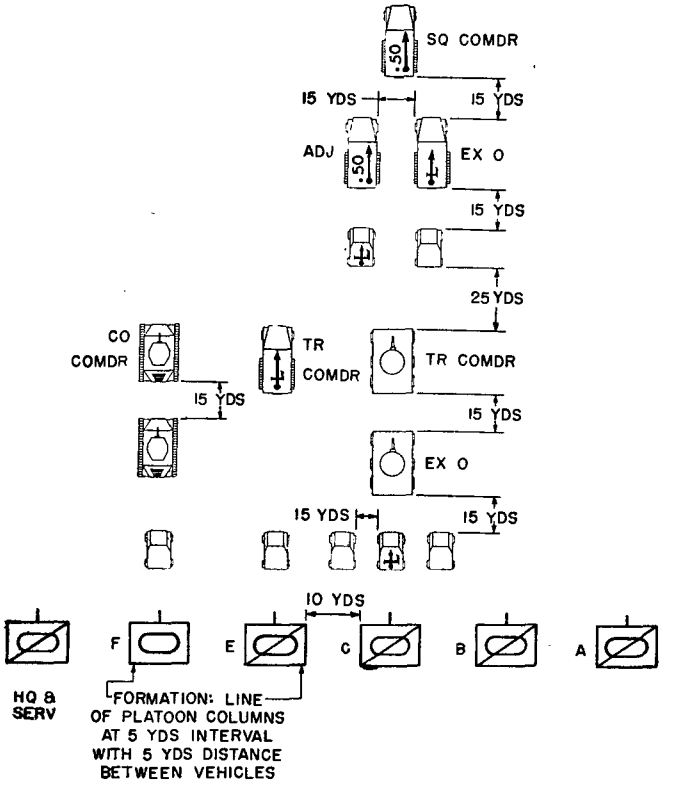


Figure 14. Cavalry reconnaissance squadron, mechanized, formed for review in line of masses. (In the reconnaissance squadron, armored division, add one reconnaissance troop and one assault gun platoon.)

c. The squadron commander's vehicle is placed 10 yards in rear of the adjutant's, and facing the squadron. When all the troops are in place, the adjutant faces the squadron commander, salutes, and reports, "Sir, the squadron is formed."

The squadron commander returns the salute of the adjutant and conducts his squadron as desired.

d. The squadron headquarters section accompanies the squadron commander. At drill the executive officer rides abreast of and 15 yards to the left of the squadron commander and the two ¼-ton trucks remaining in headquarters section each follow a half-track at 15 yards' distance with the car of the S–4 on the right. The communications section is attached to headquarters and service troop for drill. Necessary modifications for ceremonies are covered in chapter 3.

e. The elements of the squadron may be arranged in column, line, wedge, mass, or echelon. Frequently used formations or combinations may be assumed by drill commands or signals, or by fragmentary messages. To facilitate the rapid assumption of flexible maneuver formations, many formations or combinations of formations may be devised within the squadron to suit local conditions and the will of the commander.

52. EXECUTION OF MOVEMENTS. The squadron executes such movements of smaller units as are obviously applicable using corresponding methods. The squadron commander may employ the commands prescribed for the platoon and the troop, making proper substitutions in the designations of the units. To execute the necessary movements, at the command of execution, troops move from one formation to another in the most convenient manner.

53. TO DISMISS THE SQUADRON. The squadron commander commands: DISMISS YOUR TROOPS. Staff officers and noncommissioned staff officers fall out. Troop commanders conduct their troops to their respective areas and dismiss them.

SECTION IX

HEADQUARTERS TROOP, CAVALRY GROUP, MECHANIZED

54. ORGANIZATION. See T/O & E 2–22.

55. FORMATIONS AND MOVEMENTS. Headquarters troop does not ordinarily form or maneuver as a unit, except for marches, ceremonies, and inspections. When required to do so it forms and maneuvers in a manner similar to that of the reconnaissance troop with necessary drill modifications necessitated by differences in organization.

SECTION X

CAVALRY GROUP, MECHANIZED

56. GROUP HEADQUARTERS. See T/O & E 2–22.

57. ORGANIZATION. The mechanized cavalry group comprises a group headquarters and headquarters troop, two or more mechanized cavalry squadrons, and a medical detachment.

58. FORMATIONS AND MOVEMENTS. Since the mechanized cavalry group is organized and equipped primarily for tactical functions, it will seldom, if ever, form and maneuver as a unit, except for ceremonies. Formations and movements for ceremonies are covered in chapter 3.

CHAPTER 3

CEREMONIES AND INSPECTIONS

SECTION I

GENERAL

59. PURPOSE. The purpose of ceremonies, including inspections, is to promote a high state of morale, preserve tradition, render honors, or exhibit the state of training of a command. Other than for necessary practice, ceremonies should be held only when the occasion for them is appropriate. From the viewpoint of the troops concerned, the purpose of ceremonies is to make the best possible impression on the reviewing officer and spectators in the limited time at their disposal. Therefore, each formation should be exact, each movement should be executed with precision and dispatch.

60. MODIFICATIONS. Certain modifications, due to nature of terrain, size and shape of space available, and similar factors, may be necessary. Simple effective formations are the only practical type.

61. DISMOUNTED CEREMONIES. Dismounted ceremonies conform to the provisions of FM 22–5.

SECTION II

REVIEWS

62. GENERAL. **a.** A review is a ceremony tendered to a civil or military official or to a foreign dignitary. A review also may be held for the purpose of presenting decorations or for making a general inspection of a command. A mechanized cavalry review ordinarily will be mounted.

b. A review consists of four parts:

(1) Formation of troops and transportation.
(2) Presentation and honors.
(3) Inspection (passing around the troops).
(4) March in review.

63. COMMANDER OF TROOPS. The duties of the commander of troops are prescribed in FM 22–5. When an organization is reviewed by an officer junior in rank to the commanding officer, the commanding officer receives the review as reviewing officer, accompanied by the junior reviewing officer who takes post on the commander's left. For presentation and honors see FM 22–5.

64. PREPARATIONS. The following preparations must be made for a review of a mechanized unit:

a. The line on which the troops are to form is marked or otherwise designated; the post of the reviewing officer is marked with flags, as is the line of march. When formed for squadron or group reviews, the line of troops is about 125 yards in front of the reviewing stand.

b. The reviewing stand and markers are so placed that as each unit line passes in review its right is 20 yards from the reviewing officer.

65. THE BAND. At mounted ceremonies the band and/or assembled buglers are formed dismounted 25 yards to the

left of and 5 yards in rear of the reviewing officer. The band plays appropriate music while the reviewing officer is inspecting the troops, and during the march of the troops past the reviewing stand.

66. RULES FOR PERSONNEL WHILE DISMOUNTED AT MOUNTED REVIEWS. **a.** Crews of vehicles form dismounted at close interval (4 inches) in one rank, with the right flank 4 yards in front of the right track or right front wheel of their respective vehicles and aligned to the right. If there are more than 5 enlisted occupants, two ranks are formed, with the excess men in the second rank 40 inches in rear of the first rank. Personnel armed with individual weapons (rifle, carbine, submachine gun) form with those weapons. Platoon, troop, and squadron commanders form 6 yards directly in front of their vehicles.

b. Changes from dismounted to mounted posts, and *vice versa,* are executed at double time.

67. RULES FOR PERSONNEL WHILE MOUNTED AT MOUNTED REVIEWS. **a.** Personnel, other than officers, acting platoon leaders, drivers, and personnel manning weapons, riding seated in open vehicles, fold their arms when passing the reviewing officer, right arm uppermost. The folded arms are held horizontal and close to the chest for a distance of 15 yards before and after passing the reviewing stand.

b. Commanders of armored cars, half-tracks, and motor carriages stand in their vehicles, except where construction of the vehicles makes such action impracticable. In such case they remain seated and fold their arms as prescribed in the preceding paragraph. Tank commanders ride in the normal position for traveling with the tank turrets open. Platoon and higher commanders of all units stand and salute as they pass the reviewing stand, beginning the salute 15 yards from the stand and holding it until they are 15 yards beyond.

68. RULES FOR ARMS AND EQUIPMENT AT MOUNTED REVIEWS. **a.** Unless otherwise ordered, all vehicular weapons are mounted on their vehicular mounts and are carried with covers off. Machine guns, other than antiaircraft guns, are adjusted and clamped with the barrel horizontal and pointed to the front in line with the axis of the vehicle. Antiaircraft guns are pointed to the left and upward at an angle of 45° from the horizontal. Submachine guns, rifles, and carbines are carried in normal positions. All turret tops and tank doors, except side doors, are open; glass windshields remain in normal positions. Bows and canvas tops of all combat vehicles are carried as for combat. The bows and canvas tops of cargo vehicles are mounted as for inclement weather. Radio antennae are secured as prescribed by the unit commander.

b. When posted with the organization commander, dismounted, the guidon is 1 pace to the rear and 3 paces to his left. When posted with the organization commander, mounted, the guidon is flown from his vehicle.

69. INITIAL FORMATIONS. **a.** Ceremonies for squadrons and groups ordinarily will be held in line of masses with intervals of 10 yards between troops and 20 yards between squadrons. Headquarters and service troops of squadrons and headquarters troops of groups, which form on the left of their respective units, should be formed in column of threes in such manner that there is the maximum of lateral uniformity in sets of threes. Column of masses may be used with distances of 10 yards between troops and 20 yards between squadrons. The normal formation, however, should be used as far as practicable, with each troop passing the reviewing officer in mass, with intervals and distances extended to 15 yards. (See par. 13e.)

b. Staff vehicles form for ceremonies as shown in figure 14. In ceremonies the squadron headquarters section is augmented by the half-track of the communications section, which takes place on the left of the executive officer's vehicle.

c. Extra vehicles, administrative vehicles, and transportation which is not a part of a combat element of the squadron may be formed on the left of each troop or similar unit, as provided in chapter 2; or it may be advisable to group all administrative and extra vehicles in columns at the left of the squadron.

d. The initial formation is taken and all troops are in position prior to adjutant's call.

70. REVIEWING OFFICER. **a.** The reviewing officer receives the review mounted.

b. (1) On the ride around the troops, the reviewing officer and those accompanying him salute the standards only when passing in front of them. The standards do not return the salute. The ride around the troops begins at the right of the line, keeping the troops on the left. The commander of troops normally accompanies the reviewing officer, riding in the vehicle of the latter. The vehicle of the reviewing officer stops at the post of the commander of troops to effect this. If the troops are at ease, each unit is brought to attention as the reviewing officer and party approach the right of the unit.

(2) On arriving again at the right of the line, after passing around the troops, the vehicle of the reviewing officer is directed to the post of the commander of troops where the commander of troops salutes the reviewing officer, dismounts, and enters his own vehicle. The reviewing officer then returns to his post. Salutes by the reviewing officer and those at the reviewing stand are covered in FM 22–5.

c. In large reviews, radio, signals, or bugle calls generally will be utilized to transmit commands.

71. TO PASS IN REVIEW (fig. 15). **a.** When the reviewing officer has resumed his post after the ride around, or when he indicates he does not want to ride around the troops, the commander of troops commands or signals: MOUNT.

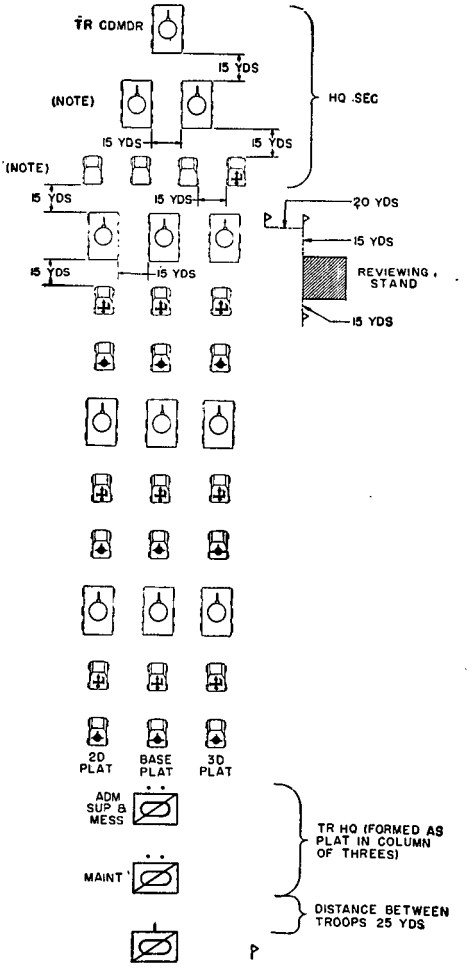


Figure 15. Cavalry reconnaissance troop, mechanized, passing in review. (Liaison detachment is present only in reconnaissance troop, infantry division.)

b. At the command MOUNT, all break ranks, move at the double time and mount. Engines are started.

c. Movements to pass in review are started on the commands: 1. PASS IN REVIEW, 2. COLUMN OF MASSES ON FIRST TROOP (SQUADRON), 3. MARCH.

d. Units normally pass in review with distances between troops of 25 yards and between squadrons of 50 yards.

e. Movements to pass in review are as follows:

(1) Troops successively execute RIGHT TURN from line of masses.

(2) Troops successively execute LEFT TURN in order to make next change of direction at the end of the review field.

(3) Troops successively execute LEFT TURN in order to make last change of direction before passing the reviewing stand.

f. After the review, troops successively leave the field in column or other prescribed formation by designated routes, or move to assembly areas as directed in the orders for the review.

g. In case the initial formation is column of masses, each rear troop moves to the front after the units ahead have cleared, and then executes the prescribed movements to pass in review on the same ground and in the same formation as the leading unit in column.

72. SPEED. The speed for a review is prescribed by the commanding officer, but should be approximately 10 to 15 miles per hour.

73. ROAD REVIEWS. **a.** Road reviews usually are held in column of vehicles. Special instructions must be issued for control of traffic safety precautions, markers, and guides. Speeds for and distance between vehicles must be prescribed. In order to prevent traffic jams, provisions must be made for divergent routes for units after having passed the reviewing stand.

b. The unit forms in column of vehicles at least 1,000 yards from the reviewing officer, with 5 yards' distance between vehicles, 10 yards between troops, and 15 yards between squadrons, halted. Motors are shut off.

c. Unit commanders report by radio when their commands are ready to move out. If the reviewing officer desires to inspect the unit before it passes in review, he so indicates and the unit is notified to prepare for inspection. Personnel take dismounted posts in front of their respective vehicles as for inspection or review. Each troop and squadron commander salutes the reviewing officer as he approaches. As soon as the inspection is completed, the unit is mounted, unless directed otherwise.

d. When the command or signal to pass in review is given, troops move out in order to pass the reviewing stand at the prescribed rate of speed, and with the prescribed distances between vehicles and units.

e. For reviews of this type, 50 yards is the normal distance between troops and 100 yards between squadrons. The distance between vehicles is normally the number of yards equal to twice the speedometer reading in miles per hour. For example, if the speedometer reads 20 miles per hour, the vehicle will be kept at a distance of 40 yards in rear of the vehicle next in front. The speed, generally at least 15 miles per hour, is set to meet local conditions, and never should exceed 25 miles per hour. All car commanders constantly must watch speeds and distances. Changes of speed must be gradual. Preservation of distances between vehicles will take precedence over distance between units.

f. Drivers must be especially watchful to prevent jamming at the reviewing stand, and should pass any disabled vehicle, or vehicle that is unable to keep its place in column. Such vehicles should pull well over to the side of the road (and off the road where practicable). The senior in the disabled vehicle will signal others to pass.

74. STANDARDS. **a.** At all mounted formations in which the national and organizational standards are present, the standards are carried on the vehicle designated for the purpose, usually that of the squadron executive. This vehicle follows the squadron commander's car in ceremonies irrespective of the formation. Provision is made therein for the standard bearers and the standard guard. The national standard is always on the right of the organizational standard.

b. At ceremonies, when troops dismount from vehicles and form dismounted, the standards are removed from the vehicle and take post corresponding to their mounted position. When troops are presented to the reviewing officer, the organizational standard is dipped when the rank of the reviewing officer entitles him to the salute. (See AR 600–30.)

c. The rules for standards in dismounted ceremonies are covered in FM 22–5.

75. MODIFICATIONS. Modifications to suit local conditions and differences in equipment will be necessary for certain units. Special instructions usually must be issued for mounted reviews. The commanding officer prescribes the order of formation and assembly areas for units after the review is completed, if rendezvous is necessary. When aviation participates, it flies just prior to the review (or as otherwise ordered) and in such formations as may be appropriate. (See FM 1–60.) If aviation is to participate, or if it is desired to hold an extended order review, or a review in other than normal formation, special instructions are issued.

76. TERMINATION. The review terminates when the rear element of the command has passed the reviewing stand. The review ended, unit commanders take charge of their units at a previously designated point(s) and move as directed in the instructions published for the review. Standards are dismissed. If an inspection is to follow the review, units move to the inspection area.

SECTION III

PARADES

77. GENERAL. **a.** Parades are formations in which the color, dignity, and pageantry of military ceremonies are displayed to instill in the command a sense of pride, esprit, duty, and smartness. Inasmuch as the appearance and movement of troops in formation are the primary considerations, parades usually are held dismounted as set forth in FM 22–5.

b. Escort of the standard or the presentation of decorations may be included in a parade.

78. STREET PARADES. **a.** For street parades, which normally will be mounted, troops are formed and moved in the most convenient manner and are issued special instructions to cover the particular parade.

b. The maximum effect of mounted or partially mounted street parades is gained when individual vehicle weapons and towed weapons are present. Administrative and other miscellaneous vehicles are added only when it is desired to increase the size of the parade.

c. Dismounted street parades are covered in FM 22–5. For very long street parades, the mounted ceremony is the more practicable.

SECTION IV

ESCORTS

79. GENERAL. Escorts are ceremonies which have as their purpose the rendering of honors to a national or unit standard, or the receiving and escorting of personages of high rank, civil or military. They are of three types: escorts of the standard, escorts of honor, and funeral escorts.

80. ESCORTS OF THE STANDARD. The ceremony normally is dismounted, and is conducted in the same manner as an escort of the color as prescribed in FM 22–5.

81. ESCORTS OF HONOR. a. General. These may be mounted or dismounted, but normally will be the former. The troops detailed for this duty are selected for their soldierly appearance and superior discipline.

b. Formation. A dismounted escort forms in line opposite the place where the person to be honored will present himself. (See FM 22–5.) When space permits, a mounted escort forms in line, the members of the escort taking dismounted posts. Buglers form separately on the right, or with the band if present. The band ordinarily is not used for mounted escorts, but if used, it takes post on the right of the escort and on line with it at a convenient interval. When space does not permit the vehicles of the escort to form in line, they are formed in column, the dismounted personnel in line on the flank of and facing away from the vehicles. Other modifications may be necessary due to limited space or the nature of the terrain where the escort is to form.

c. Ceremony. When the individual to be escorted, accompanied by an officer designated for the purpose, approaches a position in front of the escort, the escort commander, from his post in front of the center of the escort, calls the escort to attention and commands: 1. PRESENT, 2. ARMS. He then turns about and salutes the person to be honored. The buglers (or band if present) sound appropriate honors. (See AR 600–30.) The escort is then brought to order arms, and after such inspection as the individual may desire, is mounted and moved off in column. (See FM 22–5.) The inspection may be omitted. The personage with his staff or retinue takes position in rear of the column. The same ceremony is repeated at the destination of the escort. When the position of the escort is at a considerable distance from the point where the personage

is to be received, a double line of sentinels, conveniently spaced and facing inward, may be posted from that point to the escort. Sentinels successively render the appropriate salute as the personage passes.

82. FUNERAL ESCORTS. **a.** Funeral escorts follow the procedure outlined in FM 22–5. The escort is appropriate to the grade of the deceased. (See AR 600–30.) Six pallbearers are selected from the grade of the deceased, if practicable. If the deceased was a commissioned officer, the casket is borne by six noncommissioned officers who are designated as casket bearers. They will be in addition to the pallbearers.

b. Funeral escorts may be mounted or dismounted. If mounted, they follow the general provisions of escorts dismounted. When practicable, the escorts may remain mounted, in which case the present arms is omitted, the commander only rendering the prescribed salute.

c. Should conditions at the cemetery prevent the escort from entering mounted, the column is halted long enough to remove the casket from the hearse, and to permit the escort to turn out of the column and form line or column near the entrance. If appropriate, the escort may be formed and marched dismounted to the grave. Procedure for escorts accompanying a hearse to a railway station is covered in FM 22–5.

SECTION V

INSPECTIONS

83. GENERAL. **a.** Inspections may be mounted or dismounted. FM 22–5 covers dismounted inspections. The troop is the basic unit for an inspection. Squadron or higher unit commanders should inspect each troop in its

own area or have each troop marched to a designated place at a specified time for inspection. When desired, a squadron may be formed and inspected in one formation with or without transportation and full field equipment.

b. The field for inspection should be marked carefully and laid out so as to simplify and expedite the inspection and the preparations therefor. The adjutant is responsible for alignments. In case of large unit inspections a small advance detail from the squadron may be found desirable. When the unit is to move to a strange area to lay it out for an inspection, squadron details are essential. In addition, in this case, a guide for each troop is recommended.

c. See figures 16 and 17 for practicable formations for field inspections. The arrangements shown in these figures may be modified to omit latrines when it is not feasible or desirable to construct them.

d. When all elements are in position, the adjutant so reports to the commanding officer. After receiving the report, the commanding officer directs the troops to prepare for inspection.

84. FORMATIONS. **a.** If space permits, a satisfactory formation for a squadron inspection with vehicles is column of troops, troops in line, distance between troops 25 yards. Shelter tents are pitched 5 yards in front of and facing the vehicles. Command vehicles are on the right of the line. Troop kitchen, maintenance, and cargo trucks are placed to the left of the troop line, as are the officers' tents.

b. For a group or squadron, line of masses or column of masses may be used. Personnel are formed in front of the vehicles as for a mounted ceremony.

85. FIELD INSPECTION. Vehicle tools are displayed directly in front of vehicles, equipment boxes are open, and supply vehicle canvas covers are in place. Personal equipment is removed from vehicles in case shelter tents are to be pitched and inspected.

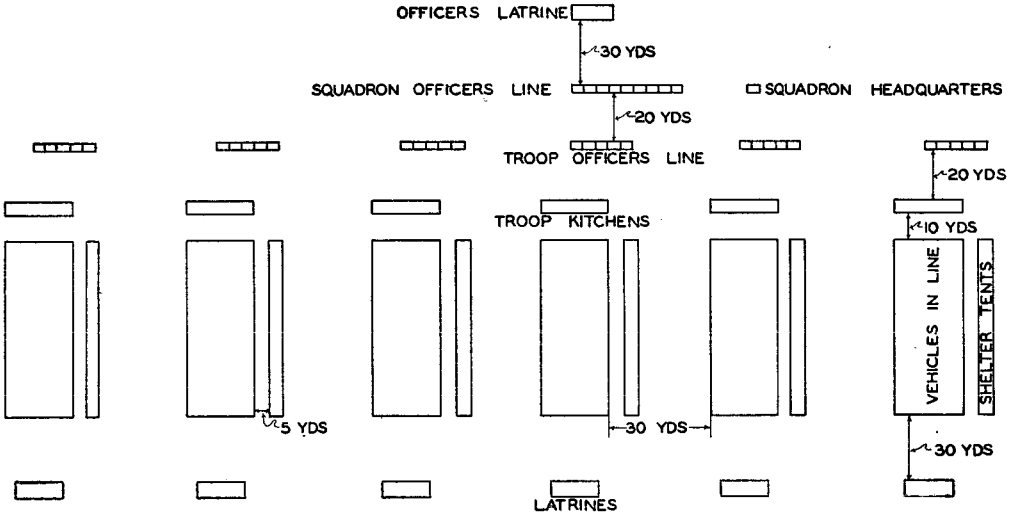


Figure 16. A practical formation for squadron field inspection.

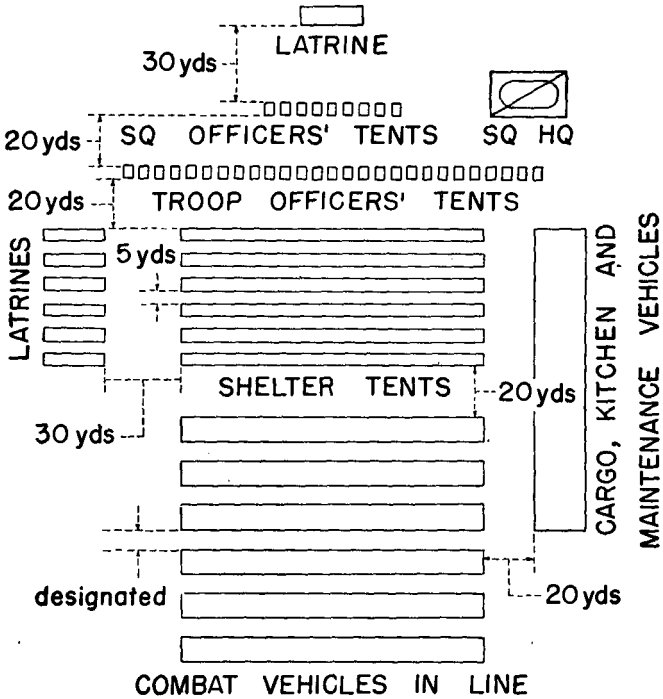
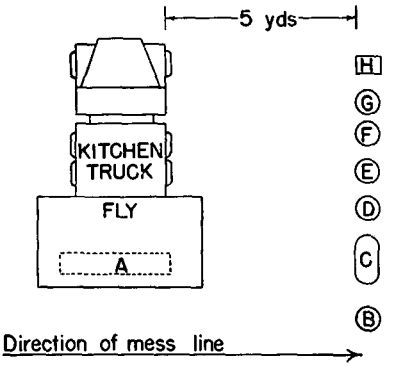


Figure 17. A practical formation for squadron field inspection (alternate).

a. Hoods are raised and engine compartments opened. Battery caps are unscrewed.

b. Weapons mounted on vehicles remain on vehicles; individual weapons are with men to whom issued.

c. Cargo trucks are unloaded and contents displayed as directed by the unit commander. Kitchen equipment is displayed in accordance with unit instructions. The kitchen fly is pitched directly behind the kitchen truck, and additional equipment is placed under the kitchen fly and in



A SERVING TABLE
B LISTER BAG
C GARBAGE PIT
D HOT SOAPY WATER
E HOT WATER
F HOT WATER
G GREASE PIT
H FUEL (IF REQUIRED)

Figure 18. Display of kitchen equipment.

the kitchen truck. (See fig. 18.) In cases where kitchen flies have been attached to and are in extension of the canvas top of the truck, the arrangement illustrated in figure 18 must be altered accordingly. Also the details of figure 18 may be modified to delete items, such as pits, when it is not feasible or desirable to construct them.

d. As an alternative, the shelter tent lines may be grouped and pitched in designated lines in front of the lines of vehicles. (See fig. 17.) The open ends of tents should face the vehicles. Lines to a flank may be designated in

case of column of troops in mass. For position of men after equipment is displayed, see FM 21–15.

e. Troop officers' tents are erected approximately 20 yards from the enlisted men's tents and facing the respective troop streets of the officers. Squadron officers' tents are pitched on a line generally 20 yards in rear of the troop officers' line. Latrines, when constructed, are placed at a convenient distance from the troops' and officers' lines and approximately 100 yards from the kitchens.

f. If pits and latrines are dug, they must be filled in on the completion of the inspection. If used, they must also be carefully marked and labeled as soon as closed.

86. STANDARDS AND GUIDONS. Standards are placed in front of the commanding officer's tent, and guidons are placed in front of the right front edges of the organization commanders' tents.

87. THE BAND. If a band is present for the inspection, it forms at the head of the unit and plays during the inspection.

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